

USS GRAVELY (DDG 107) COAT OF ARMS



SHIELD: Dark blue is the color traditionally associated with the Navy, representing the sea. Gold denotes excellence, personifying **Vice Admiral Gravelly's** accomplishments and of being the **‘Man of Many Firsts’**; the first African American commissioned as an officer from the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps, the first African American to command a United States Navy warship (**USS Theodore E. Chandler**), the first African American to command an American warship under combat conditions (**USS Taussig**), the first African American to command a major naval warship (**USS Jouett**), the first African American admiral, the first African American to rise to the rank of Vice Admiral, and the first African-American to command a U.S. Fleet (**Commander, U.S. 3rd Fleet**), paving the way for others to follow. The Aegis shield indicates the modern weaponry of the **USS GRAVELY**. The chevron suggests the prow of a ship; divided into quarters alluding to the four ships – **USS Theodore E. Chandler**, **USS Taussig**, **USS Jouett** and **USS Falgout**, commanded by Vice Admiral Gravelly. The two red sections signify the ships he commanded during combat, one of which into direct fire (**USS TAUSSIG**). The blue lightning bolts emphasize the Vice Admiral's expertise in naval communications. The trident represents seapower. Black denotes strength of character. The shield displays the Gravelly family's coat of arms.

CREST: The Gold heraldic seadog symbolizes an experienced sailor, highlighting Vice Admiral Gravelly's 38 years of naval service. The dark blue collar with the three stars displays his highest rank. Red signifies his courage and strength. The billet represents acceptance from his peers for his capabilities as an experienced naval officer. The representation of the Legion of Merit and Bronze Star honor his highest decorations awarded.

SCROLL: The pigeon silhouettes symbolize the power to think out in advance before one takes action, a characteristic of Vice Admiral Gravelly. The silhouettes also emphasize his affection for this bird.

Homeport: Norfolk, Virginia
Assigned to Naval Surface Forces
Fleet Forces Command



WELCOME ABOARD



“Success in life is the result of several factors. My formula is simply education plus motivation plus perseverance. Education is paramount. Motivation: one must decide what he wants to do in life, how best to get there and to proceed relentlessly towards that goal. Perseverance: the ability to steadfastly proceed to your goal despite all obstacles. It is the ability to overcome.”

*Samuel L. Gravelly, Jr.
Vice Admiral, USN*

Maiden Deployment

February 11 – November 18, 2013

CHARACTERISTICS/CONFIGURATION

DIMENSIONS	
Overall Length:	510 ft.
Beam	66 ft.
Displacement Projected Full Load	9200 tons
Mean Draft at Projected Full Load	33 ft
Sensors/Armament	
AN/SPY-1D(V), AN/SPS-67(V)3, Sperry Marine Bridge Master E-Series (BME) Radar Set, AN/SQS-53C(V) SONAR, AN/SQQ-28(V) LAMPS MK III	
1 32 Cell and 1 64 cell Mk 41 VLS	
96 RIM-66 SM-2, BGM 109 Tomahawk or RUM-139 VL –ASROC missiles	
1 5”/62 Gun System	
2 25 mm Guns	
4 50 Cal. Guns	
2 Mk 32 Torpedo Tubes	
ACCOMMODATIONS	
278 Officer and Enlisted Sailors	
MAIN AND AUXILIARY MACHINERY SYSTEMS	
<u>Gas Turbine/Electric Drive main Propulsion Plant:</u>	
.....4 x 26,250 SHP Gas Turbines (General Electric- LM 2500)	
.....2 Shafts with CRP (Controllable Reversible Pitch) Propellers	
Electric Power Plant:3 x 3000 KW Gas Turbine Generators (Allison)	
<u>All-Electric Auxiliaries:</u>	
Air Conditioning Plants5 x 200 ton	
Reverse Osmosis Plants 2 x 12,000 gpd	
Fire Pumps 5 x 1,000 gpm	
Aircraft Carried	
2 SH-60 Sea Hawk Helicopters	

GRAVELY (DDG 107) HISTORY

Contract Awarded	September 13, 2002
Keel Laid	November 26, 2007
Launch	March 30, 2009
Christening	May 16, 2009

SHIP'S SPONSOR: Mrs. Alma Gravely



Vice Admiral Gravely

Samuel Lee Gravely, Jr., first enlisted in the Naval Reserves on September 15, 1942 and was trained as a Fireman Apprentice. In 1943, he was selected for the V-12 program, to train as a Naval officer. On December 14, 1944 Gravely successfully completed midshipman training, becoming the first African American commissioned from the Navy Reserve Officer Training Course. His first assignment was to Camp Robert Smalls, as the Assistant Battalion Commander for new recruits. Afterwards, he began his seagoing career as a sailor aboard the USS PC-1264, a submarine chaser that was one of only two World War II ships with a largely African-American crew. In April 1946, he was released from active duty, remaining in the Naval Reserve. He returned to his hometown of Richmond to complete his bachelor's degree in History. Gravely was recalled to active duty in 1949. As part of the Navy's response to President Harry S. Truman's Executive Order to desegregate the Armed Services, his initial assignment was as a Navy Recruiter, recruiting African-Americans in the Washington, D.C. area. Gravely went from recruiting to building a Navy career that lasted 38 years and included many distinguished accomplishments. He became the first African American to command a U.S. Navy warship (Theodore E. Chandler), the first African American to command an American warship under combat conditions (Taussig), the first African American to command a major naval warship (Jouett), the first African American admiral, the first African American to rise to the rank of Vice Admiral, and the first African-American to command a U.S. Fleet (Commander, U.S. 3rd Fleet).

Admiral Gravely was assigned tours of duty aboard the following: PC-1264, Iowa, Toledo and Seminole. He served as Executive Officer and Commanding Officer of the Theodore E. Chandler. Additionally, he was the Commanding Officer of the Falgout, Taussig, and Jouett. His last tour of duty before his retirement in August 1980, was as Director of the Defense Communications Agency in Washington, overseeing the communications network linking Washington with American and allied bases worldwide.



Photo # NH 96773 RAdm. Samuel L. Gravely, Jr. March 1973

Admiral Gravely was also highly decorated, with decorations including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal and Navy Commendation Medal.



COMMANDING OFFICER



A Native of Gloucester, NJ, CDR Kennedy graduated from Villanova University with Bachelor and Master Degrees in English Education. He received his commission via the Naval ROTC program.

Commander Kennedy’s sea assignments afloat include Electrical Officer in USS NORMANDY (CG 60), Navigator in USS TORTUGA (LSD 46), Operations Officer in USS STOUT (DDG 55) and USS LEYTE GULF (CG 55), and Executive Officer in USS OSCAR AUSTIN (DDG 79).

Ashore, CDR Kennedy served as Flag Aide to Deputy Commander, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, Assistant Surface Warfare Officer Community Manager at Navy Personnel Command, Executive Assistant to the Chief of Staff, U.S. Joint Forces Command, and a Joint Working Group Lead at the Joint Staff, Joint Force Coordinator Directorate. Additionally, he received a Master Degree in Strategic and Operational Planning from National Defense University.

Personal awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (Silver Star in lieu of sixth Award), Navy Achievement Medal (Gold Star in lieu of Second Award), and various unit, campaign, and service medals.



CDR Alysa Ambrose
Executive Officer



CMDCM(SS) Neal Olds
Command Master Chief